



Higher Education Fact Sheet

Commonly-requested higher education statistics comparing Wisconsin (and the UW System) with the United States as a whole.

	Statistic by Category	Year	Wisconsin	Minnesota	National	Source
Educational Attainment	Percent of adults 25 years and over with a Bachelor's or higher degree	2019	31%	37%	33%	U. S. Census: American Community Survey and Decennial Censuses.
		2018	30%	37%	33%	
		2010	26%	32%	28%	
		2000	22%	27%	24%	
		1990	18%	22%	20%	
	Percent of adults 25 years and over with an Associate or higher degree	2019	42%	49%	42%	U. S. Census: American Community Survey and Decennial Censuses.
		2018	41%	48%	41%	
		2010	36%	42%	36%	
		2000	30%	35%	31%	
		1990	25%	30%	27%	
Access to Higher Education	Percent of high school graduates who immediately enrolled in higher education <u>at any public or private not-for-profit 2- or 4-year institution</u>	2016	61%	70%	61%	Compiled from data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
	Percent of high school graduates who immediately enrolled in higher education <u>at an in-state public or private not-for-profit 2- or 4-year institution</u>	2016	46%	48%	48%	Compiled from data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
	Percent of high school graduates who immediately enrolled in higher education <u>at an in-state public 4-year institution</u>	2016	32% ¹ 28% ²	19%	24%	Compiled from data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
	Percent of adults 25 years and over enrolled in college or graduate school (non-traditional-aged enrollment)	2019	3.4%	3.5%	4.0%	U. S. Census: American Community Survey and Decennial Census.
	2018	3.3%	3.9%	4.0%		
	2010	4.7%	4.9%	4.9%		
	2000	4.0%	4.0%	4.5%		

¹Includes UW Colleges

²Excludes UW Colleges

	Statistic by Category	Year	Wisconsin	Minnesota	National	Source
Persistence and Graduation	Percent of New Freshmen entering full-time in the fall semester who return to the same public 4-year institution the following fall (2 nd year retention rate)	Entered in fall 2018	82.1%	82.1%	81.5%	UW System and National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
	Percent of New Freshmen entering full-time in the fall semester who earn a Bachelor's degree within 6 years from the same public 4-year institution (6-year graduation rate)	Entered in fall 2013	65.4% (70.2% from any UW)	63.2%	62.4%	UW System and National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
	Percent of 8 th graders earning an associate or higher degree within 12 years	2000	Not available	Not available	35%	National Education Longitudinal Study (NELS) of 1988, as analyzed by: Adelman, Clifford. "The Toolbox Revisited: Paths to Degree Completion from High School Through College" (U.S. Dept. of Ed 2006), p. 175, Table L12.
Migration of College Graduates	Of UW alumni who were Wisconsin residents when enrolled, percent remaining in Wisconsin three years after graduating with a Bachelor's degree	2018 2015 2007	89% 85% 79%	Not available	Not available	UW System Accountability Dashboard, https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/economic-development/?storypoint=7
	Rank among U.S. states in attracting young (25 to 39), single, college-educated adults (in-migration)	2000	43 rd	28 th	Does not apply	Census 2000 Special Report, November 2003.
	Rank among U.S. states in retaining young (25 to 39), single, college-educated adults (out-migration)	2000	18 th	6 th	Does not apply	Census 2000 Special Report, November 2003.
	Rank among U.S. states in the net attraction of young (25 to 39), single, college-educated adults (net migration)	2000	35 th	14 th	Does not apply	Census 2000 Special Report, November 2003.
Income	Annual per capita personal income	2020 2019 2010 2000 1990	\$55,487 \$53,207 \$38,996 \$29,648 \$18,438	\$61,540 \$58,830 \$42,605 \$32,447 \$19,935	\$59,729 \$56,474 \$40,546 \$30,657 \$19,621	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), March 24, 2021 revision.